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TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A DOUBLE PATENTING  
REJECTION OVER A "PRIOR" PATENTDocket Number (Optional)  
END5126.0517368

In re Application of: Frederick E. Shelton, IV, et al.

Application No.: 10/674,236

Filed: September 29, 2003

For: SURGICAL STAPLING INSTRUMENT HAVING MULTISTROKE FIRING WITH OPENING LOCKOUT

The owner\*, Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc., of 100 percent interest in the instant application hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term prior patent No. U.S. 7,083,075 as the term of said prior patent is defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 and 173, and as the term of said prior patent is presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer. The owner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of the term of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 and 173 of the prior patent, "as the term of said prior patent is presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer," in the event that said prior patent later expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee;

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is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 CFR 1.321;  
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2  The undersigned is an attorney or agent of record. Reg. No. 45,558



Signature



Date

Karyn A. Schnapp

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513-651-6800

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